A HAUNTED CORRIDOR,

Materialized there.

"I don't believe a word of it!" said Auht

The wine-like glow of sunset yet illumined the great bay window; but the rest of the apartment was already enshrouded in the gray shadows of twilight, in whose misty indistinctness the huge chairs of carved oak looked like gigantic monsters from some foreign shore. From the walls frowned down dark old family portraits, and the crimson hangings above the arched doors waved restiessly back and forth away, Violet-and she said 'Yes,' that is, if I in the draughts of wind that swept through the vast corridor.

"I don't believe a word of it!" repeated Aunt Rebecca, with more emphasis than before. | says to the proposition?" added the young

"A ghost story, indeed! "Tell me about it, Violet," said young Hazelwood, to whom the deep bay-window, with its far-off prospect of snowy hills, veiled in gathering twilight, to say nothing of pretty Violet Orme's close vicinage, were infinitely of Alnwick Place.

"It is not much of a story," said Violet, your Aunt Rebecca." flushing up to her very eyelashes at the sound of her own soft voice; "only, years ago, long his hand on the door. before my great-grandpapa built this house, the site was all one unbroken wood, and there was a tradition that a beautiful girl was murdered by her lover. Her grave, they said, was beneath the foundation of the house; but I scarcely credit this part of the legend."

"Of course not," interrupted Miss Rebecca, with a toss of her false curls. "I have no patience with the relies of old superstition." What are you looking for Aunt? Have to bring a candle?" asked Violet, a moment afterwards, coming to her aunt's side. "Nothing, nothing," said Miss Rebecca, with

a little embarrassment in her voice. "Comedon't stay here any longer in the biting cold, unless you both want a week's medicine and doctor's visits." "It is not cold, Aunt Rebecca," pleaded

Violet, "and the starlight is so beautiful on

the stone pavement. Just let us wait until that fiery planet mounts a little higher." But a peremptory summons from Col. Orme himself, who had just waked from a comfortable nap beside the glowing fire in the library to a sort of vague wonder as to "where Rebecca and the young people could possibly be,"

speedily settled the matter. Never mind, Violet," whispered Charles Hazelwood: "by and by, when your father has gone to his room and Aunt Rebecca is busy with her carl-papers in her own special dormitory, we can have a starlight stroll through the ghost's territory !" Violet gave him an arch glance as she tripped

after Aunt Rebecca into the hall which led to Col. Orme's brilliantly lighted library. sides"-

"Besides what, Aunt Rebecca?" "Violet," said the maiden lady, "I wish you would go down and see if the housekeeper has explanation and correction should be made, and I prepared that posset for my sore throat, that's a good girl. I think I shall go to bed."

Violet went to execute her aunt's behests. How peacefully the distant hills and valleys elept in their snowy mantles that glorious December night. It reminded one of a lovely painting executed with brushes dipped in mering silver!

At least, so they seemed to Charles Hazelwood as he stood in the deep recess of the gigantie bay window, nearly hidden by the curtains, the faded splender of whose tarnished embroidery carried the mind unconsciously . century backward on the stream of time. But, then, Charles Hazelwood was in love.

The tail, eig-inshioned clock in the hall was triking twelve, and the colony of crickets responsible for though most of it is in language under the warm hearth-stone were falling into a dreamy, sleepy sort of chirp, as if their small lungs were fairly wearied out, when Aunt tiptoe, and carrying a dim light in her hand. Now, Aunt Rebecca in nodding false curls,

lace cofffure, and cighteen-year-old style of dress, was a very different sort of personage from Aunt Rebocca with her head tied up in a silk handkerchief, her false curls laid aside, and a long white dressing-robe enveloping her lank figure; and the latter was by no means the more propossessing of the two. Probably some such consciousness swept

scross the good spinster's brain, for she shuffied with accelerated rapidity past the solemn eyes of the grave old family portraits on the

"I am sure I dropped them somewhere here." she murmured, pausing in front of the bay-window. "How provoking! There goes my candle out! But I believe I can find them, however, the starlight is so bright. Mercy upon us! what is that? The ghost!-the ghost!

And Aust Rebeeca fied shricking down the corridor, her hands clapped over her eyes, before which was imprinted the appalling vision of a tall figure sweeping past all in white, with a crimson stain at its pallid

commotion, lights flashed into brightness at the various doors, and an eager circle of in- or not that record was true. quirers surrounded Aunt Rebecca, who evinced strong symptoms of an intention to go into "It glided past me like a gust of wind!"

she shricked, replying at hazard to the questions rained down upon her-"all in white, with that dreadful mark of blood upon its throat! It's a warning-I know it's a warning that I haven't long to live! Oh, what shall I do-what shall I do?" "But I don't understand what you were doing

an actual occurrence in real life or merely a upon it, and the thoroughness with which this is fragmentary part of his last dream. "Well, if you must know," said Miss Rebeeca, with a little hysteric sob, "I dropped my false toeth there, just at dusk, and I didn't like to look for them there with Violet and

Capt. Hazelwood standing by, and so-and "Oho! that's it, ch?" said Col. Orme. langhing. "Upon my word, Sister Booky," you are rather over-particular for a woman fifty

"Only forty-nine, James," interrupted Miss Rebecca, with a shrill accent of indignation. "But the ghost?" inquired young Hazel- Mr. Martin's name appears at the head of the artiwood, who had just arrived on the scene of ele, a false impression has spread that he supplied

perrassed air.

Upon which Aunt Rebecca gave way to the combined influences of her brother's unkind remark and the fright of ghost-seeing, and fairly minted without further notice. According to the usual custom of womankind on such occasions, Col. Orme and all the other gentlemen were hustled out into the hall, while the victim of the female officials was deluged with cau de sologne, stiffed with burnt feathers, and vigorously treated with hot flannel.

"She's coming to, poor dear creature!" was

Colonel delefully, rubbing his hands, "for it's gods-exceeding fine. O. L. WRITCOME. cold out here in the hall. Why, hillon! is this you, my little Violet. What's the matter? You haven't seen a ghost, I hope?" "No, papa," faltered Violet, "but"-

Col. Orme, and I will undertake the task of ex- lication of the War Department. Volumes planation," interposed Charles Hazelwood, one, two and three of this work are now out of while Violet's cheeks grew like flame.

means?" interrogated the bewildered Colonel | to any address on receipt of \$16. This is the when the library door was safely closed.

your daughter, and I were just looking out at the stars in the embrasure of the great hall window, when we saw some one approaching with a light. Violet went to see what the apparition meant, when Rebecca (whom it Lovely Ghost that was proved to be) dropped her candle and ran shricking away."

> "You see, papa," interposed that young lady, "I wore my long cashmere mantle, for I was afraid of taking cold, and it was tied at the throat with red ribbons, and "--"And Aunt Rebecca took it for granted that

you were the murdered heroine of our family ghost story," said the Colonel, archly. "But allow me to ask, young people, what you were so much interested in?' "Well sir," said Hazelwood, "I had just

asked her if she wouldn't marry me don't run could win her father's consent." " Well?" "And I would like to know what her father

"He says," answered Col. Orme, "that your intrepidity in facing the ghost deserves some reward, and he likewise supposes that his daughter must be allowed to have her own more attractive than the more modern regions | way. Take her, Charley, and don't spoil her! No thanks now, but let me go and see after

struggling to escape.

"Papa!" whispered Violet, as he rose, with "Well, my dear?" "Don't tell Aunt Becky that-that"-

"That you were the ghost? Just as you

And he went, chuckling, to inquire after his sister's health. There is no evidence that he ever did betray Violet's secret; but two things may be regarded as settled facts in the records of Alnwick Place: one is, that Aunt Rebecca streamously denies the existence of ghosts, and you dropped anything? Shall I call for Harris abhors the very sight of her niece's white mantle with cherry trimmings; the other is, that she is particularly careful never to pass through the solemn old haunted hall alone after sunset!-Bow Bells.

MR. MARTIN EXPLAINS. He Repudiates the Cleaveland Leader Interview-

He Never Said It. We are in receipt of the following letter from Mr. Leonard Martin, supervising examiner of pensions at Cleveland, O., in regard to the in-Leader held with him in February last, and to sixty-four printed pages. It says: which attention was editorially called in our issue of April 3:

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, PENSION OFFICE, SPECIAL EXAMINATION DIVISION. OFFICE OF SUPERVISING EXAMINER. CLEVELAND, O., April 14, 1884. To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE,

Washington, D. C.
My attention was called for the first time to-day to the inclosed editorial in your paper (THE NA-Tional Tribune) of April 8, 1884, headed "Are there Three Commissioners?" which severely "I wish Capt. Hazelwood wouldn't remain | gridle which appeared in the Cleveland Leader of "He will catch his death of cold; and, be-Leader and myscif concerning pension matters.

In the editorial referred to, my language and the meaning I intended to convey are so signally misrepresented, that in justice to myself I feel that an think that in a spirit of fairness you will cause this

explanation to be published in your paper.
In the first place, that portion of the article which is copied in full in THE TRIPUNE, and is devoted to narrating the experience of a special examiner in a country town, I am in no way responsible for, as will be seen by the inclosed slip* from the Leader of yesterday. Whatever information the reporter based that portion of his article upon came from liquid pearl, and shaded with pencils of glim- some other source beside myself, and unknown to me. Nothing of the kind has ever been said by me. either to a reporter or any other person, nor has anything similar to what is therein stated come under my ob ervation, although I have been for nearly five years in different parts of the country examining pension claims. Neither do I believe that any other examiner has ever had any such experience. That part of the article referred to, and upon which you seem to lay particular stress, is, therefore, disposed of as far as I am concerned.

use of the expression that "special examiners have to follow up claims through many devious ways," or anything similar to it. I did say, however, that Rebecca emerged from her deer, treading on examiners often found great difficulty in ascertaining the facts as to claims, owing to the long lapse of time since the alleged incidents occurred during which many persons having knowledge of them had died, removed to parts unknown, or for gotten what had transpired so long ago. As an instance, I cited the case referred to in your editorial, of the soldier who was injured in attempting to board a moving train in Cleveland. It was claimed that this attempt was made by the direct command of his superior officer. This being an unusual order, and unless it was given the soldier had no business to endanger his life or person in such an attempt, the investigation was ordered to determine whether or not such an order was given -in other words, whether the allegation was true or not. There was nothing in what I said to convoy the impression that any unfair means were desired or would be used to show that such an order was not issued, but simply that the examiner must obtain all testimony possible to ascertain, if possible, whether or not such an order was given. Again, in the case cited in your editorial of the soldier discharged for rheumatism and partial paralysis, you omit to state the most material part of that case, and which appeared in the Leader article. This was, that the same record which showed the soldier discharged for rheumatism and partial paralysis further said that "these diseases existed prior to the soldier's enlistment." In view of such a statement in the record, made some twenty years ago, at the time of the soldier's dis-The house was aroused into instantaneous

charge, an examiner would be fully justified in making careful inquiry as to the soldier's physical on before he enlisted to determine whether It would seem by your editorial that you believe or at least intend to convey the impression, that I (and inferentially all other special examiners) aim only to procure testimony to defeat a claim. In aminer can have no possible motive for doing such an injustice to a claimant. The rules laid down for his guldance forbid it, even going so far as to direc that in case a "bias for or against a claim has found lodgment in his mind" he should immediately return the case, that it may be placed in the hands of some other examiner for investigation. Neither is his position or standing in any way affected by the bearing of the evidence obtained by himout in the Ghost's Corridor at this time of whether in favor or against the claim. His duty is might," interrupted Col. Orme, staring at his sister as if not quite certain whether this were merits, irrespective of what their influence may be

> done fixes his standing. LEGNARD MARTIN, Supervising Examiner, Cleveland District. * The following is the slip referred to:

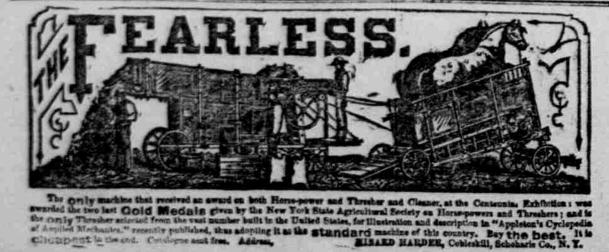
AN INTERVIEWED PENSION INSPECTOR. [Cleveland Leader, April 18, 1884.] On the morning of February 24 the Leader contained a long article headed "Pension Seekers." The first part of the article was made up of an interview had with Mr. Leonard Martin, supervising inspector for the Cleveland district. The last two paragraphs were devoted to a tale giving the adventures of a pension agent in the country which the reporter had gained from another source. As

The Tribune Taking Off Its Gloves.

To the Editor NATIONAL TRIBUNE: I want to say that the two editorials in last week's TRIBUNE, "A Delusion and a Snare" and "The Pension Tragedy," are worth a year's shielding the Pension Office long enough, and I am glad to see that it is taking off its gloves. Where is the work that was to be accomplished the final verdict hurled at Col. Orme through a in two years by those 1,500 clerks? I hope "Well, I am glad of it, I'm sure," said the | when it grinds, let it be like the mills of the ARGYLE, N. Y.

A Rare Chance.

The most valuable of military works is un-"Suppose we three adjourn into the library, but Orme, and I will undertake the task of exclusion," interposed Charles Hazelwood, the War Department. Volumes one, two and three of this work are now out of print, but The Tribune has managed to secure one complete set (ten volumes) and will send it to any address on receive of \$18. This is the Mexican war. only perfect set that we have on hand, and the "It means, sir," said Charles, laughing, yet a first applicant will get it. Address simply THE little puzzled how to proceed, "that Violet, NATIONAL TRIBUNE, Washington, D. C.



A Strong Report in Favor of Pensioning All Ex-Prisoners. "So Violet was the ghost, eh?" said the Colonel, repressing a very strong inclination

As stated in our last issue, the majority of the members of the House Committee on Invalid Pensions have signed a report in favor of the Robinson bill to pension ex-prisoners. It is true that Mr. Matson, the chairman, reported the substitute bill, signed by himself and four other members of the committee, as the recommendation of the majority, but that was not the case in fact. In regard to this the ten signers of the report in favor of the Robinson bill say: 'The records of the Committee on Invalid Pensions show the undersigned to be in a minority owing to the absence of some members of the committee when the bill under comsideration was acted upon. The fact is shown, however, upon an expression by all the officer, laughingly, detaining Violet, who was members of the committee, that the within views supporting the bill, H. R. 1119, as amended, known as the Robinson bill, meet the concurrence of a majority of the whole committee. The body of this report has been prepared upon the theory that it would be a minority report. This explanation of the reports presented and the standing of the committee is deemed but just to the committee and to the

Appended to the report in favor of the Robinson bill are the names of the following members of the committee: A. J. Holmes (Rep., Iowa), William Cullen (Rep., Ill.), L. C. Houck (Rep., Tenn.), Ossian Ray (Rep., N. H.), E. N. Morrill (Rep., Kan.), H. B. Lovering (Dem., Mass.), J. D. Patton (Dem., Pa.), Benjamin Le Fevre (Dem., O.), James H. Budd (Dem., Cal.). and John S. Wise (Readjuster, Va.) Mr. Budd states over his signature that he concurs in the report "for the above and other reasons;' and Mr. Wise, while also concurring, expresses the opinion that Union citizens of Southern States who were confined in rebel prisons because they refused to enlist in the Confederate army ought to be given the benefit of the

The members of the committee whe signed the report in favor of the substitute were Matson (Ind.), Winans (Mich.), Fyan (Mo.), Sumner (Wis.) and Bagley (N. Y.)—all Democrats. We gave in our last issue the full text of both bills, as also the report in favor of the substitute. The report on the Robinson bill, which we now terview which a reporter of the Cleveland have before us, is very voluminous, occupying

THE REPORT ON THE ECBINSON BILL. The members of the Committee on Invalid Pensions presenting this report cannot accept the con-clusions and action of the official majority. The services and sufferings of the men named as beneficiaries in this bill are too great to be subordinated in a courtesy to the majority-too intimately connected with the preservation of our national life to be ignored. In thus dissenting from the views of the majority we shall attempt to present some pertinent reasons for supporting the bill under there Three Commissioners?" which severely consideration. We premise by stating that Union oritizes certain statements attributed to me in an went greater deprivations and suffered incomparout there," said Aunt Rebecca anxiously. February 24, 1884. This article purports to be the ably more in loss of health and life than they would

> The further proposition that the surviving prisoners embraced in the provisions of this bill are disabled as a class cannot, we think, be successfully

The claim made by the majority that there may he an occasional individual coming under the provisions of this bill who has not lost his health wholly or in part, even if true (which we do not concede), does not affect the proposition that they are disabled as a class; even exceptions would but prove the rule. Fortunately, the facts that support the justice of

this bill have been long established in the most solemn manner known to the law. The number of graves of Union prisoners, as ascertained at the different Southern prisons, was 36,401, but this estimate does not include those who died in prison and of whom no record was kept, and whose graves were not marked, nor of those who died while being transferred from prison to prison, nor of those dying on their way home or mmediately after their arrival there, nor of those dying in hospital after exchange, which, from the most reliable data, swells the total number of deaths from confinement in Southern prisons to 60,000-a vast body of men, indeed, to remove by

cruelty and systematic murder. The necessity of fixing some minimum term of imprisoment that would be reasonable seems as justly met by the terms of the bill as it is practicable to do. It would be perhaps impossible to frame any pension law that would do exact justice to every pensioner-one not open to criticism; but the present bill, with the suggestions herein presented, is, we believe, as happy an approximation as can be devised for the degree of relief extended. In this connection it is proper to determine the degree of hardships endured and the treatment received by those imprisoned; also, whether prisoners of war coming within the provisions of this bill are as a class disabled by reason of their imprisonment. To that end we will consider-1. The treatment of Union soldiers while prison-

ers, and their condition when released from con-2. The mortality statistics relating to them during captivity and subsequently. The treatment of Union prisoners by the rebel authorities must, in the light of history, be considered the most cruel and inhuman known among civilized people in modern times. In support of this, we are not compelled to rely upon the evidence of the sufferers or their friends.

We first quote extracts from the official report of Joseph Jones, M. D., professor of medical chemis-try in the Medical College of Georgia, at Augusta, who made a thorough inspection of Andersonville prison, under instructions from the surgeon-general of the so-called Confederate States. REBEL TESTIMONY. This report, which will be found among the testimony taken by the special congressional

committee to investigate the treatment of Union prisoners, is a very full and exhaustive review of the unsanitary condition of Andersonville and the inhuman treatment of its inmates.

The report then quotes the testimony of the acting assistant Confederate surgeon at Anderthis you are wholly in the wrong. A special ex- sonville at the Wirz trial; the evidence of Lieutenant-Colonel D. T. Chandler, inspector-general of the Confederacy, before the congressional investigating committee; articles from the Southern newspapers; the testimony of Ambrose Spencer. a resident of Americus, Ga.; of Father Hamilton, the Catholic priest who ministered so faithfully to the inmates of Andersonville; as also the evidence of many Union prisoners to the same effect, and showing that the condition of all Southern prisons closely resembled that of Andersonville. Proceeding to the consideration of the mortality in Southern prisons, the report says:

The entire number of officers and soldiers, white and colored, killed in action during the war of the rebellion was 44,238, and the total number of officers and soldiers who died of wounds received in action during the same time was 33,993. This is against the 60,000 who died in prison or immediately after being released show a difference of but 18,221 more men killed in action and dying of wounds received in action than died from confinement in rebel

The aggregate number of officers and soldiers entering the Union army during the war, as appears by the records, was 2,335,951, while the total action, with rather a flushed brow and em. all the information contained in the article. The but of the latter number one-half are estimated to ian does not desire to pass as the author of have been in confinement less than thirty days. So the latter part of the article, hence the explanation. | that of the last-named number it will be remembered that a large majority were either paroled or exchanged immediately after capture or within a few weeks of that time; few, if any, prisoners were kept in confinement as long as sixty days until after the cartel was interrupted, less than 100,000 being kept and retained prisoners for the period of

sixty days or longer.

Although the number of prisoners so held bore subscription. I think THE TRIBUNE has been | the proportion to the whole number of troops in the service of one to twenty-three, yet the number of deaths, as above shown, of prisoners and those killed in battle and dying of wounds received was as ten to thirteen. In other words, had the number killed in action and dying of their wounds received THE TRIBUNE will strike early and often, and | in action equaled the mortality of those confined in prison more than sixty days the loss by death in killed and those dying of wounds received on the field would have been more than 900,000 men, instead of 78,221, the actual number. The number of enlisted men who were killed and dled of wounds in the service was one to twentyeight, while the number of enlisted men who died

> disease throughout the Mexican war. The undersigned members of your committee are indebted for many statistical facts to the very valuable and scholarly work of Augustus C. Ham-lin, late medical inspector, United States army, antiquarian, &c. The ordinary amount of solid food per day required to sustain human life is forty-two ounces, as ascertained from the best scientific and practical sources. This varies slightly under different climatic conditions, while the cloth ing and quarters occupied are also important in

timating the amount required.

The Russian soldier is allowed fifty ounces o solid food per day. The Turkish soldier more than forty ounces. The British soldier receives in home service forty-five ounces; the British navy forty-four ounces, and the soldiers and sailors of the United States navy about fifty ounces.

The amount allowed with soldier more than confined in Southern military prisons for more than sixty days, and who have received an honor-sold discharge, shall be placed upon the pension-roll without proving disability.

The amount allowed our prisoners captured by Great Britain during the war of 1812 was over thirty-two ounces, besides which our Government was allowed to supply them for the most part with

age being less than ten ounces each for men who were comparatively destitute of both clothing and It is an unvarying law of nature that when the weight of the body is reduced beyond a certain degree, usually forty one-hundredths to fifty one-hundredths of the usual weight, death ensues.

COMPARATIVE MORTALITY. The average mortality in the hospitals of Dublin is less than 5 per cent.; in the civil hospitals of France from 5 to 9 per cent. At the Moyamensing prison it was for many years 1 per cent., and for seven years in the New York penitentiary it was less than I per cent.

The average deaths in the prisons of Massachu-setts, Michigan, New York, and Maryland was about 2 per cent. The official records at Andersonville show that 2,678 men died in September, or more than 15 per cent., in October more than 27 per cent. died, in August 3,000 men died, and on the 23d day of that month one died on an average every eleven minutes out of the number present. The Federal hospitals of Nashville received during the year 1864, 65,000 sick and wounded, of whom only 4 per cent.

patients, and lost 2,600 or less than 4 per cent.

By the records of the British army it appears that out of 438,000 British soldiers who were engaged in the twenty-two great battles of the British Empire from 1801 to 1854 but 14,000 men were killed or died from their wounds, or 3 per cent. Had not the movements of Sherman compelled a transfer of a large portion of the prisoners at Andersonville all would have died in a brief period at the rate of mortality then prevailing there. Careful estimates show that the average duration of life of a prisoner of war at Andersonville

The hospitals of Washington treated in 1863 68,000

was ninety-five days. The men who were thus imprisoned and died so rapidly were in no way enfeebled when captured by the enemy. They were, by far the greater part, young men and middle-aged men, strong and robust, who had served from one to two years and were inured to all the hardships of the field. Only those having the greatest vitality and the strongest constitutions lived to return. If because a soldier was by nature endowed with a constitution and power of endurance equal to two ordinary men and has sacrificed one-half of it or more, but is yet able to labor to some extent, and not able to prove disability to a pensionable degree under the rules of the Pension Office, he must not, under the views of the majority, be granted a pension. This All suffered alike. The soldier who died often suffered less than he who lived; the red dew of one baptism is upon them all. While we cannot repay our indebtedness to the dead we can be just

Who that has examined, even superficially, the treatment of these soldiers of the Republic with all the shocking details of the dying and the dead, almost aggregating the total of those killed in battle and dying of wounds during the war, and say they could have passed such an ordeal and be sound and able-bodied men? Who that has intimately known the survivors of those fatal death-pens, will say they are not dis-

abled—are not entitled to a pension?
Who, in short, can endure similar abuse with health and physical ability unimpaired? In the opinion of this minority such a case cannot be ound. Well might Winder say (referring to An-"I am going to build a pen here that will kill - Yankees than can be destroyed in the

THE EFFECTS OF CONFINEMENT. Your minority are aware of the incredulity which often obtains among the men of the present generation who were not engaged in that great drams concerning the applications of soldiers for pen-sions on the grounds of diarrhea, dysentery, and ailments apparently no more serious, and which even to the physician on a superficial examination, present no serious evidence of specific disease. Yet the mortality records of Andersonville, showing list with chronic diarrhea, which alone was fatal to 4,000; next appears scurvy, credited with 3,574 victims; next dysentery, 1,384; then acute diarrhea, 817. Other prisons, so far as records were kept, showed similar results. Thus at Andersonville more than two-thirds of the deaths were owing to

the four causes named. The diseases named result in a gradual weakening and breaking down of the system without perhaps marked symptoms of any specific disease oreating a pensionable disability. The soldier has perhaps no former hospital record; his comrades are dead, or their residence in many instances unknown, and so for years his application remains on file at the Pension Office awaiting proofs which he cannot obtain. As long as pensions are granted only for disability, so long the Pension Office must be governed by rules defining disability, and require strict proof in support of them. The disabilities affecting prisoners of war, and the circumstances attending their captivity, render it more difficult for them to comply with these requirements. The permanent impairment of the digestive functions from the unwholsome and indigestible food also seems a general characteristic of prisoners of war who have undergone any protracted confinement. It is not deemed pertinent or necessary in this

report to discuss at any length the policy of our Government in the matter of exchange of prison-

SUSPENSION OF EXCHANGE. Whether exchanges were interrupted because of the refusal of the rebel authorities to recognize and exchange as prisoners of war the colored Union

soldiers captured by them, or for other reasons either on the part of our Government or the rebel au-thorities, is immaterial to the bill under considera-Suffice it to say that those who would be the beneficiaries in this bill were in no manner respon-sible for the failure to exchange, and that the direct result of their remaining in prison was to aid most materially in bringing the war to an early close. Thus the total number of Confederate prisoners captured was 479,547. While the number of Federal prisoners captured was 188.145, or, adding

mortunry record, 198,218. Showing that more than twice as many Confederates were captured as Fed-The number held prisoners on each side at the close of the war was in about the same proportion as the total number captured by each. By the failure to exchange at all our Government held and kept out of the field more than twice as many rebel prisoners as were held by the rebels of

Between our Government and its citizens, as well as between individuals, there are in all undertakings certain obligations, either expressed or implied. In that of the Government with its citisens who agreed to enter its service as soldiers and sailors there was an obligation by the latter that they would obey the commands of their superiors and render good service; on the part of the Government that it would care for and protect them, and suffer no cruelty or indignity to be perpe trated upon them not in accordance with the rules of warfare among civilized nations. If, therefore, indignities and cruelties were perpetrated upon in violation of the laws of nations, and be yond anything they were called upon or expected to undergo by their contract of service, then certainly it cannot be denied that the Government should, if it is able, make such additional compensation or reparation as would be equitable; this alike whether such results were owing to the fault of the Government or came about through unavoidable casualty.

In support of this proposition and as a judicial determination of the fact that our prisoners were treated in a barbarous manner unknown to the law of nations, the report quotes the findings of the court-martial in the trial of Henry Wirz, the commandant at Andersonville. Proceeding next to the consideration of the objection to the bill that it provides for service pensions, the report shows that the precedents are all in favor of the action proposed by this bill, and referring to the Mexican war bounty act of September 28, 1850, quotes section 2 to show the discrimination there made in favor of prisoners. The section is as follows:

A SIGNIFICANT PRECEDENT. SEC. 2. And be it further enacted. That the period during which any officer or soldier may have re-mained in captivity with the enemy shall be estimated and added to the period of his actual service, number of Union officers and soldiers captured by and the person so detained in captivity shall receive number of Union officers and soldiers captured by the rebels (including mortuary record) was 198,218, land under the provisions of this act in the same land under the provisions of this act in the same entered the service for the whole term made up by the addition of the time of his captivity and had served during such time. The report continues:

that were practiced upon our prisoners-and the present ability of the country to deal justly with the survivors of Southern military prisons, the minority sustaining this report can but recommend the passage of the bill under consideration, in the belief that the relief granted falls short of justice rather than exceeding it.

From the most reliable data obtainable there are

not to exceed 8,000 to 10,000 surviving soldiers who would receive a pension under the present bill, at an estimated cost of about \$700,000 per annum to commence with, and which would rapidly di-

In addition to the annual appropriation above named, there would be required to pay the per diem of those confined the sum of about \$10,000,000 to be paid at once; this on the estimate that the average time of confinement of prisoners was eight months, which is probably in excess rather than short of the exact average.

The mortality among surviving prisoners is now about fifteen per cent. yearly. No complaint can be made that taxation will be increased under the

appropriation thus required, as a small part of the annual surplus now received is sufficient. Meanwhile these soldiers of the Republic who assisted in carrying our banners to victory, and afterward survived the barbarity of rebel prisons, are now nearly or quite all physical wrecks, themselves and families in many firstances the objects of charity. Many of them, suffering from disease, are grimly striving to support their families by labor, with spirit as unbroken as when sick and starving in prison they braved, unsheltered, southern storms and southern suns.

The radical question at issue between the majority and minority of the committee is whether Union soldiers captured while in line of duty and

The Run-Down Condition of the System, in which weakness, nervous worry and low spirits unhinge one completely, is corrected by

Some Practical Suggestions for Our Agricultural Readers.

WATERING PLANTS IN POTS.

In the operation of watering potted plants, persons not practically familiar with plant culture are apt to make serious mistakes. Cultivators find by experience that an excess of water at the roots is injurious to almost all plants; hence, it is customary to direct that great caution be used in the application of water, especially with newly-potted plants at all times, and with all plants during winter when growth is least active. The consequence of this is, that the opposite extreme is frequently fallen into, to the great injury of the plants. From the moment that the soil becomes so dry that the roots cannot absorb moisture from it the plant begins to suffer. Some plants suffer more than others, but all which have healthy active foliage are injured whenever the supply of moisture is less than the demand. When the drainage of the pot is perfect, the risk of overwatering, or rather the injury from it, is not so great as when the drainage is imperfect. It is always a good sign of proper drainage when the water leaves the surface immediately after it is applied. If the water stands for even half an hour after watering, it is clear evidence of insufficient drainage. One of the most frequent errors in watering is that custom which waters a little every day, regardless of the requirements of the plant, and especially when these daily drippings are only enough to merely wet the surface, while the main body of the soil is left to become dry. Whenever water is applied, it should be given in sufficient quantity to wet the whole soil, weather, or for other reasons, to apply less | water, and stirring it up. water than formerly; and this advice is followed by decreasing the quantity, but not de-

THE CANKER WORM ON TREES. The absence of wings in the female canker worm gives a power over her which is half the victory, and anything which will prevent her | fact a luxury which only the rich or well-to-do ascending the trunk will, in a great measure, | can afford to use. But it is a mistake when we though not entirely, preserve the tree from the | consider their food value-their nourishing

ravages of the worm. holding oil. Whatever substance is used must | Post. be renewed as often as it becomes dry, or as the surface ceases to be sticky or becomes coated with a mass of captured moths. If tar is used, it should be entirely scraped from the bark when the season for which it is needed is over. If bandages are used, they should be removed at the same time. It is reported that

trees have been saved from these insects, after having reached the leaves, by freely dusting air-slacked lime over the trees while they are wet with dew. Paris-green in water, mixed in the proportion of a tablespoonful of the poison to twelve quarts of water, and applied with a large syringe, will destroy the worms on the leaves. Mixtures of one pound of whale-oil soap and seven gallons of water, thrown over the trees, will destroy the canker worm and many other insects. The practice of plugging sulphur or driving nails in the tree is too ab-

surd for consideration. VALUE OF TREES AND PLANTS PROPAGATED

by insects or fungi which plants have not been | had lost several previously. do the trouble is local. These facts would lead | third of that amount, and the rice having cuttings, &c., is a weakening process; and that | being three times easier of digestion. fungi and insects thrive best upon weak plants

is well known." tobacco, wheat, corn, &c., -but they are not feeding one crop. exempt from serious losses by insect attacks. | Dana, author of the "Muck Manual," claims Our fruit trees are mostly budded or grafted, that two parts of muck mixed with one part but caterpillars do not destroy their leaves of stable manure will make three parts of as more on that account; indeed, much of the much manurial value as the part of pure grafting performed strengthens the vigor of the dung. This will depend greatly upon the tree instead of weakening it. When a cutting kind of muck used; some of the material is rooted it forms an independent plant, and called muck is of but little value at best. its vigor of growth depends upon local and in- When muck is not too much decomposed it is dividual circumstances which have no connec- beneficial for use upon sandy and gravelly soils. tion with the manner in which it was propa- and it is a valuable article to mix with the ma-

It seems to be a popular idea that trees raised —For several years past the curculic or plur, from seeds are healthier and longer lived than weevil has been puncturing the apple, pear those which are raised from cuttings or those | peach and cherry, and although it has been stated which have been grafted or budded, but there | that the grubs do not reach to a destructive is no well-authenticated data on the subject, state in any of these fruits, recent observations and it is well known that our old budded apple | have shown that much of the injury to apple and peach orchards hold out just as long and | which have been attributed to the codling moth as well as the crab which has been raised from and apple magget is really the work of the seed. Health and vigor in plants are not so curculio. Following from the well-known much dependent upon the method of propaga- crescent-shaped mark ninty-nine per cent. of tion as upon the method of treatment, and no those punctured the fruit contained the active one need fear to plant budded trees because larvæ. budding will weaken the plant or induce insect attacks, as it does neither.

CHANGES OF SEEDS. as follows on the influence of location and cliable distance north or south of its home, the this purpose. different. Small-eared, small-stalked, and earlyripening northern corn taken south may pro- fore planting. duce a good crop in a favorable season. Replanted the second and third years, it will have become a large-eared, large-stalked variety, far removed from the parent in appearance. On the contrary, if the large-eared southern corn is planted in the north it will not ripen, except in very long and hot summers; but by selection for several years its time of ripening may be shortened considerably, its stalks decreased in height, the ears in size; thus, the old variety disappears and a new sort takes its place.

"Change of soil has similar effect to change of climate. Even an unusual season, as one of excessive wet or tropical heat, will materially alter the outward form, so that some time is required to restore, by selection and breeding, the peculiar form and habits for which the

variety is cultivated. "As a general rule it is as true of plants as of animals, that varieties whose characteristics are well fixed by years of careful breeding and selection, are more certain to produce their like in good crops, and more difficult to change than the unselected and ill-bred sorts."

PREPARATION OF BONES FOR MANURE.

If, however, the bone is broken into thousands, ommend this method of flower gardening. or it may be millions, of pieces, it will decay coffee, sugar, potatoes, and tobacco, while those of eur prisoners confined in Dartmoor prison, England, during the same war were allowed fully fifty ounces a day.

At Andersonville the food allowance, according to the evidence of prisoners and others, varied from six to sixteen cunces of solid food—the aver
At Complex the mind, and composes the nerves with a power and promptness altopated by grinding. The surface exposed to the action of the atmosphere is so gether admirable. Office, 1707 Poplar street, Philadelphia. \$1. [We know Dr. Foster to be from six to sixteen cunces of solid food—the aver
At an experienced and reliable practitioner.—Ed.]

reduced should not dissolve as fast as that treated with sulphuric acid, it will last longer; that is all the difference.

Among what are known as sub-tropical plants, cannas or Indian shot are very prominent and popular. They seed freely and may readily be propagated by sowing the seeds. The seeds are hard (hence the name of Indian shot), and they should be soaked in water for twenty-four hours before sowing. They will soon vegetate if sown in the open ground and make good strong plants the first summer. When the season is over, and their tops have been killed by frost, they may be lifted and the roots stored in a dry cellar or in any other place where they can be kept dry and beyond the reach of frost. These roots can be planted when the proper time again arrives in spring, which is about the time for planting corn, or after all danger from frost may be anticipated. They form a rich sub-tropical feature in a flower

BRUSSELS SPROUTS. This member of the cabbage family is not so well-known as it should be. It is the sweetest and most tender of vegetables, and is as easily grown as any other cabbage. It is hardier than most cabbages, and may be gathered all winter from unprotected plants, over a large portion of this country; and where the winters are severe, they can be lifted and stored in a cellar, with the roots in sand, and used during winter. The top of the plant is not the part used, as with the common cabbage; but at the axil of each leaf, on the stem,-and some varieties have stems two feet in length,-clusters of small, firm heads are produced so closely that the entire stem becomes one mass of firm, diminutive cabbages, and sufficient for a good dish. Its culture and treatment throughout is the same as for cabbages.

PUDDLING ROOTS AT TRANSPLANTING. In setting cabbage plants, strawberries, tomatoes, and other plants, during dry weather, it is and this is sure to be the case when water runs | a capital expedient to bathe their roots in mud out at the bottom of the pot. It is sometimes | before setting them. Any kind of soil, except advised, when plants are finishing their growth, it is mere sand, can be made into a thickish or in order to gradually inure them to cold | mud by making a slight hollow, pouring in

When the roots of plants are dipped into this puddle a portion will adhere to them and keep creasing the number of applications. This is a sufficient amount of moisture to assist the wrong; water, even in these cases, ought to be | formation of new roots. This answers nearly given liberally when applied, but the periods as good a purpose as watering, and is more between the applications should be lengthened. | economical. The method can be adopted even in the transplanting of trees. .

EGGS ARE CHEAP FOOD.

Eggs are usually esteemed expensive diet-in qualities. Eggs, like milk, contain every ele-The preventive measures most generally ment necessary for the development of a perin use have consisted of some application of a fect animal. This is proved by the fact that sticky nature to the trunk of the tree, whereby | bones, muscles, blood, feathers, everything in the feet of the moth may be encumbered, and fact that makes the fully formed chicken is from which she may be unable to escape. Va- | contained in the yolk and white of an egg. rious substances have been used for this pur- Indeed, there is no more concentrated or nourpose, among which may be mentioned printers' ishing food than eggs. The albumen, oil and ink, tar, bird-lime, refined sorghum molasses, saline matter are just in the right proportion slow-drying varnishes, and melted india-rub- for sustaining animal life. If, therefore, we ber. Oil and resin, boiled together in proper | eat to obtain strength, we will find that two or proportions, answer better than tar, because three eggs properly cooked will afford more the mixture does not dry up so much on hot nourishment than a piece of meat of equal days. The methods of application of these sub- | market value. When we come to compare the stances have been diverse. They have been cost of producing eggs and pork, we find it applied either directly around the body of the costs nearly twice as much to produce a pound other Free publications giving information. tree, or over a broad belt of clay-mortar, or on of pork as it does a pound of eggs, and taking strips of old canvas, on stiff paper, on the un- into account the nutritive value of each and the derside of a horizontal and close-fitting collar comparative prices of the two on an average, of boards fastened around the trunk, or by the pork is three times as costly a food as eggs, means of tin-collars provided with troughs for and certainly much less wholesome. - Poultry

NOTELETS. Morgan Butler, of Oneida county, N. Y., has for fifteen years cut an average of more than two tons of hay per acre from a meadow seeded with fescue, oat grass, bent grass, Kentucky blue grass, timothy, vernal grass and clover. This list shows the importance of seeding with a great variety of grasses. No one alone could pro-

duce so large a crop for so long a time. -The proper time to prune spring and early summer flowering shrubs is immediately after their flowers fade. Then the plants can be thinned out, strong or straggling shoots shortened, and decaying branches removed. Expert pruners will leave the plant, after pruning, so natural looking that no appearance of recent cutting can readily be detected. The worst pruning is that which leaves the plant shaped like a cabbage; this may be called trimming, but it is not pruning.

-An Ohio farmer washes his apple trees every spring and fall with a strong lye that We copy the following from the American | will float an egg, and finds it to be sure death Cultivator: "It is a notorious fact that no race to the borer. He claims that he has not lost a of plants in this country is very much attacked | tree since beginning this practice, although he

for a long series of years propagated by other | -One pound of rice gives eighty-eight per means than from the seed. Potatoes are suc- cent. of nutriment; one pound of beef, twentycessively grown from tubers and fruit trees five per cent. And yet many strain a point from buds and grafts. Native plants suffer daily to purchase beef at fifteen cents a pound, little from insect depredations, and when they when they could get a pound of rice at oneone to suspect that propagating by off-shoots, three times as much nuriment as the beef and

-The progressive farmer learns that his soil must be fed-somewhat on the same principle Such statements as the above are very apt to that he feeds his cows, but less frequently. Still. mislead. In the first place, it cannot be held | the question comes up, How shall we feed our that plants raised from seed are less liable to lands ?-with stable manure, or with commerattacks from insects or fungi than those which | cial fertilizers? Stable manure is best if it are raised from cuttings. Most of our staple can be obtained. Leave the commercial ferproducts are raised from seed, -such as cotton, | tilizers as a last resort, or depend upon its

nure in the barnvard.

-It is becoming more and more a matter of conviction among fruit growers that the simplest and most effectual way of fighting the insects which destroy fruits is to allow swine Mr. E. H. Libby, in the Farmer's Review, says and sheep free range in the orchard, so that all the fruit which drops from the trees may be mate on seeds: "If the seed of any variety of eaten up, and the larvæ thus be gotten rid of. corn, for example, is planted at any consider- Sheep are said to be even better than swine for

product will be very different from the origi- Strawberries will grow and produce fairly hal, and in two or three years the characteris- well on almost any kind of soil, but the finest hal, and in two or three years the characteristics which distinguished it will have disappeared and have replaced by others markedly and fairest fruit will be from plants grown on J. F. MANCHA, Clarement, Va. peared and been replaced by others markedly soils which are rather clayey. But these soils should be well drained and deeply worked be-

> QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS. . Can THE NATIONAL TRIBUNE tell me what tree is called the foxglove tree?—Emma, Trenton, N. J.

Ans. Probably the Catalpa or the Paulounia; we have heard of these by the above name, because of the resemblance of their flowers to those of the garden plant called foxglove. What are the best purple-leaved trees and shrubs for a lawn? I mean trees colored like the purple

beech.-S. R. R., Pittsburgh, Pa. Ans. There is no tree equal to the purple beech; the purple-leaved peach holds its color well; so, also, does the purple-leaved filbert. There are also fairly good purple-leaved varieties of the European sycamore maple and the English oak. There is also a purple-leaved birch, which is well-colored for a short time in spring. The purple-leaved berberry has a fine

I have noticed a recommendation to grow a "wild flower garden," but I do not understand what it means, or how it is made,-Julia S. H.,

colored foliage.

Ans. One method of making a wild flower The mechanical reduction of bones by grind- garden is to procure a dozen or more packages ing is gradually supplanting the method of of flower seeds, mix them all together, and sow dissolving them with sulphuric acid. The broadcast. First prepare the ground good, rake largest bone that may be selected, if thrown on | it rather fine on the surface, and deeply forked, the ground and exposed to the weather, will and after scattering the seeds on the surface. ultimately decay and disappear; but it may cover them by raking the ground carefully. take twenty years to decompose it. If the Weeds must be promptly removed, and where bone be broken into fifty pieces it will decay | the plants are very thick, pull some of them more rapidly, because the surface exposed to up. If allowed to stand as chance has directed the free access of the decomposing influences it will form a good example of the survival of of air and water has been largely increased. | the fittest. Upon the whole, we can hardly rec-

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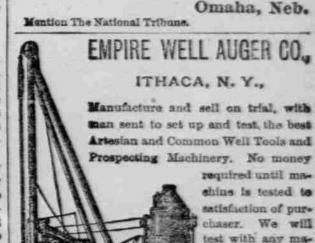
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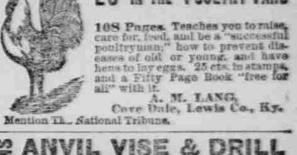
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